

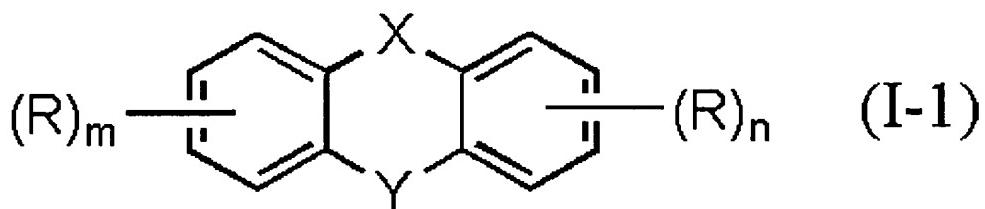
AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The paragraph beginning on page 3, line 26, is being amended as follows:

The aromatic ring represented by Ar¹ or Ar² may be substituted with one or more substituents. Examples of the ~~substituents~~ substituents include an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, an alkoxy group, an acyloxy, a hydroxyl group, a halogen atom, ~~a sulfonyl group and a carbonyl group a sulfo group (which is SO₃H)~~ and carboxyl group a sulfo group (which is SO₃H) and carboxyl group.

The paragraph beginning on page 5, line 24, is being amended as follows:

When Ar¹ and Ar² are benzene rings, the compound represented by the formula (I) is a compound represented by the following formula (I-1):



wherein m and n each independently represent an integer of 0 - 4, R represent an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, an alkoxy group, an acyloxy group, a hydroxyl group, a halogen atom, ~~a sulfonyl group and a carbonyl group a sulfo group (which is SO₃H)~~ and carboxyl group a sulfo group (which is SO₃H) and carboxyl group

sulfo group and a carboxyl group, provided that, when sum of m and n is two or more, the groups of R may be same to or different from each other.

The paragraph beginning on page 36, line 1, is being amended as follows:

To 100 parts of ~~acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene-butadiene acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene~~ copolymer [melt-flow rate: 13.3 g/10 minutes], 0.1 part of each of the compounds 1, 3 and 6 listed below was added as the Compound (I), and the mixture was melt-kneaded at 240°C with 30 mmφ mono-axial extruder to obtain pellets of the polybutadiene composition, which were then dried with hot air.

compound 1: 9,10-dihydroanthracene

compound 3: xanthene

compound 6: anthrone